

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10455 261152Z

73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 SY-05 DHA-02 ORM-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

/062 W

----- 084729

R 261053Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2620

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10455

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UR, CASC, CGEN (SANDBERG, JOEL AND ADELE)

SUBJ: INTERROGATION OF AMCITS IN USSR

REF: MOSCOW A-24 AND PREVIOUS

1. DURING JULY 24 CALL ON MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, G. A. BOSIKOV AND V.G. KOVALENKO, CONSOFFS RECEIVED NOTE AND ORAL REPLY TO EMBASSY PROTEST SUBMITTED JUNE 10 RE INTERROGATION AND EXPULSION FROM USSR OF JOEL AND ADELE SANDBERG. COPY OF NOTE AND EMBASSY'S TRANSLATION WILL BE POUCHED EUR/SOV REFERENCING THIS MESSAGE.

2. BRIEFLY, NOTE ACCUSES SANDBERGS OF "ACTIVITIES INCOMPATIBLE WITH THEIR PRESENCE ON THE TERRITORY OF THE USSR IN THE CAPACITY OF TOURISTS," WHICH RESULTED IN THEIR EXPULSION FROM THE USSR. THE "ACTIVITIES," ACCORDING TO THE NOTE, INCLUDED MEETING WITH SOVIET CITIZENS DENIED EXIT PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL AND SLANDERING THE SOVIET UNION DURING CONVERSTATIONS WITH THEM, "PERSUADING" OTHER SOVIET CITIZENS TO EMIGRATE, AND PRAISING THE WEST IN COMPARISON WITH THE SOVIET UNION. NOTE ALLEGES "J. SANDBERG" CONFESSED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 10455 261152Z

TO MEMBERSHIP IN "MIAMI ZIONIST ORGANIZATION" CALLED

"YOUTH FEDERATION," AND TOLD INTERROGATORS HE HAD COME TO USSR "TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON SOVIET CITIZENS OF JEWISH NATIONALITY." THESE ACTIVITIES "AROUSSED THE LAWFUL INDIGNATION" OF UNIDENTIFIED SOVIET CITIZENS WHO TURNED TO INTOURIST REQUESTING THEY BE "PROTECTED" FROM THE SANDBERGS. NOTE DENIES SANDBERG WERE REFUSED PERMISSION TELEPHONE EMBASSY AND ALLEGES INTOURIST EVEN HELPED THEM ORDER SUCH A CALL, ON WHICH GROUNDS MINISTRY "DECLINES" ("OTKLONYAYET") EMBASSY'S PROTEST OF VIOLATION CONSULAR CONVENTION ARTICLE 12. NOTE ALSO DENIES INTERROGATION WAS CONDUCTED IN UNSEEMLY MANNER AND STATES INTOURIST VOUCHERS AND COUPONS WERE "ANNULLED" BUT THAT NO OTHER OBJECTS WERE TAKEN FROM SANDBERGS. NOTE CLOSES WITH REQUEST THAT AMERICAN SIDE TAKE MEASURES TO PREVENT SUCH BEHAVIOR BY AMERICAN TOURISTS IN USSR IN FUTURE.

3. BOSIKOV'S ORAL PRESENTATION FOLLOWED IN GENERAL TERMS TEXT OF NOTE. HE OPENED BY SAYING HE WAS "DISAPPOINTED" EMBASSY WOULD "DEFEND SUCH PERSONS" AS THE SANDBERGS, AND EMBASSY POSTURE IN CASE WAS "HARMFUL" TO US-USSR RELATIONS. CONSOFF REPLIED HE UNDERSTOOD TOURISTS WERE FREE TO CONTACT SOVIET FRIENDS DURING TOURS, AND THAT PRIVATE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS WAS NOT PROHIBITED. WHILE BOSIKOV AGREED THAT VISITING AND EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH FRIENDS WAS ALLOWED, HE SOMEWHAT HEATEDLY RETORTED THAT "ANTI-SOVIET SLANDER" WAS PROHIBITED, AND DWELT AT SOME LENGTH ON THE SOVIET EXPECTATION THAT TOURISTS WOULD SPEND TIME IN USSR SIGHTSEEING. CONSOFF REPLIED SANDBERGS HAD INDEED PARTICIPATED IN INTOURIST-ORGANIZED TOURS, AND REPEATED ASSERTION THAT PRIVATE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS, AS OPPOSED TO PUBLIC STATEMENTS, WERE NOT PROHIBITED BY SOVIET LAW. BOSIKOV THEN TURNED TO ALLEGATION SANDBERG WAS MEMBER OF MIAMI "YOUTH FEDERATION," AND STATED HE HAD COME TO USSR "ON ASSIGNMENT" FROM THAT ORGANIZATION, WHICH WAS "INCOMPATIBLE" WITH TOURISM. CONSOFF REPLIED HE WAS UNAWARE SANDBERG BELONGED TO ANY ORGANIZATION, AND WAS UNCONVINCED SANDBERGS HAD VIOLATED ANY LAW.

4. DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT CLOSED WITH CONSOFF STATING HE FELT SUCH INCIDENTS WERE "UNNECESSARY" IN CONTEXT OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 10455 261152Z

DEVELOPING US-USSR RELATIONS, AND URGING THEY BE AVOIDED IN FUTURE. BOSIKOV AGREED, BUT CONTINUED BLAME AMERICAN SIDE FOR INCIDENT, ASKING US WARN TOURISTS NOT TO ENGAGE IN ANTI-SOVIET ACTIVITIES WHILE IN USSR.

5. CONSOFF THANKED BOSIKOV FOR REPORT OF "INVESTIGATION" INTO INCIDENT, BUT DID NOT SPECIFY THAT CASE WAS CONSIDERED CLOSED.

PLEASE ADVISE IF FURHTER ACTION RE SANDBERG INCIDENT
IS ENVISIONED.
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW10455
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750258-0556
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750718/aaaaapwa.tel
Line Count: 119
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW A-24
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERROGATION OF AMCITS IN USSR
TAGS: CASC, CGEN, UR, (SANDBERG, JOEL), (SANDBERG, ADELE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006